

From: Carl
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/27/01 8:13pm
Subject: U.S. v. Microsoft

To Whom it may Concern:

I've been working with computers for the last six years, and I have seen the growth of microsoft in the marketplace. It has reached a point that a majority of computers sold today are sold with microsoft products, while it is quite difficult to find an alternative offered.

My concern with microsoft's monopoly lies with the internet, a computer network originally payed for by the taxpayers of the U.S., and now is slowly being monopolized by microsoft's attempts at creating 'closed' protocols with their .NET initiative. The internet should be free, the public payed for it, and it should not be dominated by one company for it's sole profit. The internet best represents our right to free speech, and no company should dictate what that speech should be. My ability to 'surf' the internet is hindered by the fact that microsoft powered sites cater only to microsoft browsers, and that is just the beginning, soon, with the .NET initiative, more of the world wide web will be inaccessible. This is not just a problem in the U.S. it is a problem that spans the globe. The internet is such that the people of the planet have the ability to communicate, and the microsoft monopoly will insure that the entire planet is running microsoft products.

The punishment of microsoft must ensure that the internet remains free and that all people enjoy the freedom of choice of software products worldwide.

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"One is often kept in the right road by a rut."
-- Gustave Droz